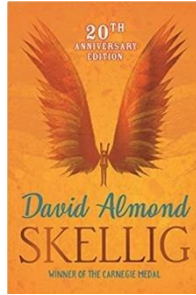




English:

This term, our focus text will be 'Skellig' by David Almond. Whilst enjoying reading the text, we will continue to develop children's reading comprehension skills with a focus on retrieval, vocabulary and inference. Using the text as a stimulus, we will write sustained and independent pieces. We will focus on genres including diary entries, non-chronological reports, informal letters, poetry, balanced arguments and narrative. This term, we will continue to focus on developing cohesion, using paragraphs, subordinate and relative clauses, adverbial phrases and parenthesis. Handwriting will continue to be a focus throughout all our writing sessions, ensuring children are forming and joining letters correctly, making sure their writing is legible.



Creative Curriculum:

Our topic for spring 1 is 'Off with Her Head!' Children will learn all about the great House of Tudor, beginning with Henry VII through to Elizabeth I. Throughout this topic, we will have the opportunity to: use geography skills to compare Tudor London and Modern London; find out about Henry VIII and his wives and explore the clothing worn by rich and poor families.



For spring 2, our topic will be 'Allotment'. We will learn about farms, where food comes from and how they make it from the ground to our plates. Children will also have the opportunity to discover allotments which are close to our school, which foods are compostable and when the best time will be to plant crops.



Maths:

In maths, children will begin work on decimals (knowing the value of tenths and hundredths), fractions and how both of these link to percentages. Multiplication and division will be explored in further detail with a focus on using more formal written methods to calculate larger numbers.



Alongside the above, we will continue to: learn times tables, recalling both multiplication and division facts with speed and accuracy; practise efficient mental arithmetic strategies; develop mental methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

Science:

Children began to study 'Properties and Changes of Materials' before the Christmas break, and this will continue for the first part of spring term. Children will learn to: test the properties of materials; investigate dissolving and identify variables in an investigation; use solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated and sieve, filter and evaporate materials.



We will also be studying 'Living Things and their Habitats'. Children will be able to describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, amphibian, insect and bird as well as describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.

Computing:

Our topic during the first half term will be 'Digital Artist'. We will study photography using digital editing techniques. Our second topic will be 'Digital Design' where children will be designing a portable storage unit, which will be designed to scale.



RE/PSHE

In RE this term, the focus will be: **When, How and Why do Christians Pray? and What Difference does it Make?** This unit explores the meaning and practice of Christian prayer. We evaluate the power and impact of prayer, the value of praying for believers, and the relevance of prayer to those who do not have a religious faith.



British Values:

Children will be learning all about Individual Liberty and Tolerance during spring term. Lessons will focus on what these words mean and how these values can be embedded into our everyday lives.



The focus for PSHE will be **Dreams and Goals** looking at our future dreams, the importance of money, jobs and careers and motivation to achieve. The second part of the term will focus on **Healthy Me** with a look at smoking, alcohol and anti-social behaviour, body image, our relationships with food and making healthy choices.

PE:

Swimming lessons will commence for year 5 this term each Wednesday for one class, (further details will follow in a separate letter). Outdoor PE lessons will take place each Friday. Units covered this term will include football and cricket.



Children are expected to wear suitable school P.E. kit as stated in the school policy.

Dates for your diary

31st January - INSET day
WB 7th February - Mental Health and Well Being Week
17th February - Y5 Curriculum Morning
18th February - Half Term
3rd March - World Book Day
18th March - Comic Relief
23rd March - Parents' Consultation Evening
8th April - Term Ends

